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(57) Abstract			
<p>Devices and use thereof, the device comprising a filter and a means for region specific compression of the filter. Alternatively, the device comprises a filter; a region containing the filter; a fluid access port to the region containing the filter; a fluid egress port from the region containing the filter; and a lateral fluid flow path through the filter connecting the fluid access port to the fluid egress port. Alternatively, a single step assay device whereby fluid movement through the device occurs substantially solely due to action of capillary force, the device comprising a filter; a region containing the filter; a fluid access port to the region containing the filter; a means for retarding movement of particles through a peripheral filter surface; a fluid egress port from the region containing the filter; a lateral fluid flow path through the filter connecting the fluid access port to the fluid egress port, whereby sample fluid substantially devoid of particulate matter is released from the filter through the egress port; and, an exit region fluidly connected to the egress port. Use of the device optionally comprises means for producing an assay result in an exit region of the device.</p>			